

OREGON CROP WEATHER



NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

Released: August 16, 2010
Week ending: August 15, 2010
Volume: 20-10

Phone: 503-326-2131
Toll Free: 1-800-338-2157
Email: nass-or@nass.usda.gov
Internet: www.nass.usda.gov/or

Weather: Another hot week with some thunderstorms reported in the eastern counties. High temperatures ranged from 61 degrees in Crescent City to 102 in The Dalles. Low temperatures ranged from 33 in Baker City to 57 in Portland. Twenty-six stations reported below average temperatures for this time of year. Sixteen of forty-three stations reported measurable precipitation, and only seven stations reported more than normal precipitation levels for the week. The Burns station reported the most precipitation with 0.45 inches followed by the Joseph station with 0.42 inches. Seventeen stations reported below normal seasonal cumulative precipitation. Klamath Falls struggles most with only 53 percent of normal season precipitation levels.

Field Crops: High temperatures aided winter wheat harvest. Yields looked above average in Yamhill County, although spring wheat may not be so fortunate. In Sherman County, they were finishing the north end and just getting started in the south. Grass seed harvest was mostly finished. Hot weather improved field corn condition. Red clover was blooming and hops will soon be ready for harvest. Hops were close to being ready for harvest. Alfalfa haying continued in Wasco County. Irrigation was needed in the hot, dry weather. Carrot seed planting was underway in Jefferson County.

Vegetables: The harvest of warm weather crops was in full swing for truck gardens in Josephine County. Growers in Douglas County reported late tomato and pepper ripening due to late spring plantings.

Green beans and squash flourished with the mild temperatures. Garlic and onion harvest continued. Sweet corn was available at markets in Washington and Yamhill counties.

Fruits and Nuts: The berry harvest continued in lower Willamette Valley, there was still intensive monitoring for the spotted wing drosophila found in some berry crops. Late everbearing strawberries were on the market. Peaches were still being harvested, and pears were looking good. Fresh apples may be found in farmers markets soon. Some fruit russeting was found on many apple varieties down in Douglas County. Hazelnuts were reported to be sizing fairly well. Some foliar and filbertworm spraying was going on in Yamhill County. In the middle and upper Hood River Valley, cherry harvest continued, while in the lower Valley, preparations were taking place for the pear harvest.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Summer irrigation and plant care continued for nurseries and greenhouses.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Livestock continued to do well, despite rapidly declining dryland pasture conditions and water sources. Ranchers were busy with weaning preparations and supplementing feed and hauling water where needed.

Soil Moisture - Week Ending 08/15/10

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Topsoil	16	51	32	1
Subsoil	9	47	44	0

Crop Progress - Week Ending 08/15/10

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	90	83	100	79
Alfalfa hay, third cutting	25	21	49	18
Winter wheat harvested	81	68	94	89
Barley harvested	67	49	74	78
Spring wheat harvested	80	60	77	74
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.5	6.9	6.3	6.7

Crop Condition - Week Ending 08/15/10

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Winter wheat	1	0	19	57	23
Spring wheat	0	3	13	57	27
Barley	0	0	11	65	24
Corn	0	0	18	82	0
Range and pasture	3	27	25	38	7

Western Oregon

CLACKAMAS: Hot weather prevailed last week. Marionberries were done. Pastures were about gone. Started feeding beef cows and preparing calves for weaning.

CLATSOP: Very hot weather, temperatures reaching in the mid to high 90's. These higher temperatures were drying out many crops and potentially affecting harvest yields.

COOS/CURRY: Low temperatures were slightly above the 5-year average in Bandon (Coos Co.) and in Brookings in southern Curry. High temperatures through the week were about 5 degrees below the 5-year average in Coos/Northern Curry, but more than 15 degrees below the 5-year average in southern Curry. Both Coos and Curry counties experienced overcast/foggy mornings and breezy conditions most of the week. The weather allowed haying operations to continue to wrap up after morning fog burned off and more livestock were put out on bottoms as they continued to dry sufficiently to permit grazing. Bandon (Coos & Northern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 50.41 degrees, 1.12 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 63.57 degrees, 4.42 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.01 inches, which is the 5-year (including drought in 2005) average for the week. Precipitation for the Current weather year (began 10/09) stands at 59.49 inches, 5.94 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation October through August is 58.74 inches. Brookings (Southern Curry): Low temperature for the period was 50.92 degrees, 0.02 degrees above the 5-year average. High temperature for the period was 62.33 degrees, 15.19 degrees below the 5-year average. Precipitation for the period was 0.2 inches, compared to a 5-year (including drought in 2005) average of 0.02 inches. Precipitation for Current weather year precipitation (began 10/08) stands at 85.97 inches, 6.97 inches above the 5 year average. Historical average precipitation October through August is 71.53 inches.

DOUGLAS: Temperatures were getting into the 90's again keeping most folks focus on irrigation. The heat units this summer were a little lower than the average year causing wine grapes, apples, pears, plums, and peaches to all be about 10-14 days behind normal maturity rates. Quality of some tree fruit was affected by frost and freeze just after bloom. The fruit surface was badly russeted on many apple varieties. Vegetable growers were expecting their tomato and pepper harvest to be later than normal. Green beans and squash were having great yields with the milder temperatures.

JOSEPHINE: Low temperatures were in the mid-50's, while high temperatures were in the mid-90's to low 100's. Very low humidity, but it was a miserable work week. Sunday morning a squall moved through the area with a trace of rain in our location. There was an uncontrolled fire burning since Friday on the Illinois River and the Rogue Drainage. Watering was a challenge. Harvesting of warm weather crops were in full swing, mostly small truck gardens. Grapes continued to mature.

LANE: Good growing crop weather. Grass seed, wheat, and hay were being harvested and replanted. Peaches continued to be harvested. Cherries were near done. Pears were looking good. Garlic and onions were harvested. Filbertworm was slow to emerge. Hazelnuts were sizing nicely. Blueberries were being harvested. Raspberries were mostly done. Grapes were sizing. Strawberries were done. Cole crops were doing fine. Cabbage heads were developing well. Flea beetles and cucumber beetles were affecting cucumbers and the pumpkin crop. General vegetable crops were doing well. Spotted wing drosophila was found in 12 sites, affecting raspberries, blackberries and blueberries. Intensive monitoring was going on.

LINN: Most of the winter wheat in the Valley had been harvested now and reports have come in that the crop was average. The weather had remained mild for summer.

MARION: The week ended with high temperatures providing good conditions for wheat harvest. Grass seed harvest was winding down. Hops were close to being ready for harvest. Red clover fields were finishing bloom.

WASHINGTON: Majority of fall wheat harvested and grass for seed nearing completion. Field corn condition improved from hot weather and irrigation. Red clover was in full bloom. Grass and wheat straw was being baled and alfalfa hay was in good quality. Late everbearing strawberries were on market. Cherries were nearly finished and filberts were filling. Walnuts were slim to none. Blackberries and blueberries were plentiful, while raspberries were available. Sweet corn was at farmers markets. There were all sorts of vegetables available at markets. Spot spraying in evergreen nursery shrubs. Fall cover crops growing well. Irrigation continued. Cattle and buffalo were doing well. Pastures were drying rapidly. High temperature was 93 degrees and low temperature was 48 degrees. Humidity was a high 90 percent to low 30 percent.

YAMHILL: Winter wheat and grass seed continued to be harvested. Winter wheat yields were looking good but spring wheat may not do so well. Quite a bit was planted over a number of weeks maybe in one field as farmers waited for drier weather and fields. Some was planted very late. Sweet corn hit local stores and farmers markets last week. A few grass seed fields remain but for the most part grass seed was done. Dry peas were done with average yields. Plenty of ground work for the 2011 crop was getting done. Tall fescue and perennial rye greening up very well as mowing was finishing up after the straw had been removed, should have really good growth going into winter this year on older grass fields. Red clover appeared to be everywhere right now as it was the last field crop standing and you can still see the flowers. Some foliar spraying was being done in hazelnuts last week. Fresh apples should soon be in farmers markets. Blackberries and peaches continued to be harvested. There was some filbertworm spraying.

Eastern Oregon

HARNEY: Heavy thunderstorms wide spread throughout the County Tuesday and Wednesday.

HOOD RIVER: Mild temperatures early in the week turned hot by week's end. Cherry harvest continued in the upper Hood River Valley. Lower Valley growers prepared for summer pear harvest. Summer orchard operations continued throughout the Valley.

JEFFERSON: Conditions had been excellent for grass seed harvest, peppermint leaf harvest, pollination of carrot seed, and pollination of other specialty seeds. However, it never got hot enough to get two cuttings from the peppermint. Planting of the 2011 carrot seed crop was underway and seed-to-seed planting should be done in about a week.

KLAMATH: Isolated thunderstorms came through the area on Saturday evening.

LAKE: Received small amount of precipitation during the week. Hot daytime temperatures had started to negatively impact pasture conditions.

SHERMAN: Grain harvest continued, finishing up in north end but just getting started in south end. No fire to report of any significance.

UMATILLA: Full season potatoes were looking good. Short season potatoes jury was out. Corn was progressing well.

WALLOWA: Thunderstorms through the early part of the week. Heavy rains and some hail in portions of the County.

WASCO: Super hot week. Grain harvest was nearly completed in all areas. Winter wheat harvest was winding down. Yields were above average. Alfalfa haying and irrigation were active all week. Apple and pears were being picked in The Dalles area. Cherry harvest was done, with below average yields but above average prices. Grapes were coloring in their maturity cycle. Dryland range and pastures were rapidly being depleted. Stock watering was becoming a premium, as ponds and springs continued to dry. Livestock, however, continued to be doing well and no early sales being reported.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: August 15, 2010 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	54	90	63	+2	91	+14	0.01	-0.25	1	75.77	10.20	116	189
Bandon ⁸	48	64	57	-3	48	-15	0.01	-0.20	1	60.58	2.29	104	202
Crescent City	50	61	56	-4	42	-21	-	-0.21	-	65.03	0.41	101	154
Florence	43	71	58	-4	60	-17	-	-0.28	-	87.92	12.29	116	170
North Bend	48	64	57	-4	55	-17	-	-0.20	-	59.57	-3.13	95	162
Tillamook	50	93	63	+4	92	+27	-	-0.34	-	65.96	-21.57	75	179
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	52	99	71	+5	151	+32	-	-0.20	-	44.39	3.93	110	171
Corvallis	47	99	68	+3	130	+15	-	-0.18	-	42.52	0.35	101	186
Detroit Lake ⁸	51	97	71	+8	147	+56	-	-0.27	-	85.79	19.02	128	183
Eugene	47	101	69	+2	133	+7	-	-0.21	-	40.39	-8.30	83	150
Hillsboro	46	97	67	+2	122	+10	-	-0.22	-	37.86	0.93	103	159
McMinnville	49	99	69	+3	131	+12	-	-0.14	-	29.50	-13.22	69	139
Portland	57	98	72	+3	153	+20	-	-0.21	-	37.01	1.39	104	182
Salem	52	101	70	+4	145	+26	-	-0.14	-	43.43	4.74	112	156
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	54	98	73	+2	162	+8	-	-0.08	-	28.66	-2.03	93	141
Medford	55	101	76	+4	184	+22	-	-0.12	-	15.09	-3.45	81	102
Roseburg	56	98	73	+4	164	+24	-	-0.14	-	33.03	0.70	102	150
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	48	86	66	-1	113	+1	-	-0.14	-	16.91	3.27	124	117
Echo ⁸	50	95	73	+0	160	+1	0.18	0.11	1	9.74	1.03	112	108
Heppner	51	88	68	-3	127	-12	0.01	-0.13	1	13.67	0.17	101	105
Hermiston	47	97	72	-2	158	-1	0.11	0.04	1	9.26	0.55	106	89
Madras ⁸	44	91	67	-1	118	-1	-	-0.14	-	10.38	0.28	103	115
Moro	49	89	67	-2	119	-7	-	-0.07	-	14.57	3.77	135	99
Parkdale ⁸	44	93	66	-3	112	-8	-	-0.13	-	38.04	7.60	125	167
Pendleton	53	94	71	-3	147	-13	0.15	0.02	1	14.22	2.52	122	105
Prairie City ⁸	44	91	67	-1	118	-1	-	-0.14	-	10.38	0.28	103	115
The Dalles	56	102	75	+8	176	+57	-	-0.10	-	13.27	1.08	109	105
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	38	90	62	-2	87	-4	-	-0.15	-	10.47	-5.30	66	93
Bend	47	87	64	+2	101	+5	-	-0.14	-	10.44	-0.94	92	43
Burns	39	90	64	-2	100	-7	0.45	0.31	3	11.20	1.60	117	102
Christmas Valley ⁸	37	88	63	-6	91	-35	0.03	-0.11	1	6.53	-5.53	54	95
Klamath Falls	43	91	66	-3	111	-11	-	-0.14	-	7.00	-6.18	53	85
Klamath Falls ⁸	43	90	66	-2	116	-6	-	-0.14	-	7.84	-5.34	59	96
Lakeview	38	89	64	-3	99	-12	-	-0.14	-	10.85	-4.45	71	114
Lorella ⁸	37	91	63	-5	95	-27	0.01	-0.13	1	8.85	-4.33	67	96
Redmond	42	92	65	-2	107	-5	-	-0.14	-	7.17	-1.09	87	82
Worden ⁸	38	88	62	-6	85	-37	0.04	-0.10	1	9.00	-4.18	68	86
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	33	86	61	-7	81	-37	0.12	-0.09	2	10.71	0.35	103	109
Joseph	46	84	62	+0	81	+4	0.42	0.18	4	18.80	-5.41	78	112
La Grande	46	91	67	-4	117	-21	0.40	0.19	2	14.02	-2.92	83	106
Union	48	88	66	-2	116	-3	0.18	-0.03	2	16.49	3.26	125	105
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	48	95	71	-5	145	-30	0.05	-0.02	2	11.30	1.91	120	100
Rome	43	92	69	-3	137	-8	0.25	0.16	2	9.38	1.42	118	82

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2010: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2009.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normal period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.